# The Iowa Collector

Official Publication of the
Iowa Numismatic Association

The Iowa Numismatic Association
Established in 1938



*In This Issue*

**Collecting Rare Coins**

*By Bruce Amspacher*

**Fall & Winter 2019**
**Volume 60 Number 3**

*http://ina.anaclubs.org*

# IOWA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION'S

## *81st Annual*

# *COIN SHOW & CONVENTION*

**October 19th-20th, 2019**

**Saturday 9:00 am - 5:00 pm**
**Sunday 10:00 am - 3:00 pm**

**The Palace in Adventureland Park**
**Altoona, Iowa**
**Exit 142 off of I-80**

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Need not be present to win

**Coin show hosted by Des Moines Coin Club**

**For Information:**
**Chris Seuntjens**
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# The Iowa Collector

Official Publication / Iowa Numismatic Association

Volume 60, Number 3 September 2019

# *In This Issue*

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Bruce Amspacher



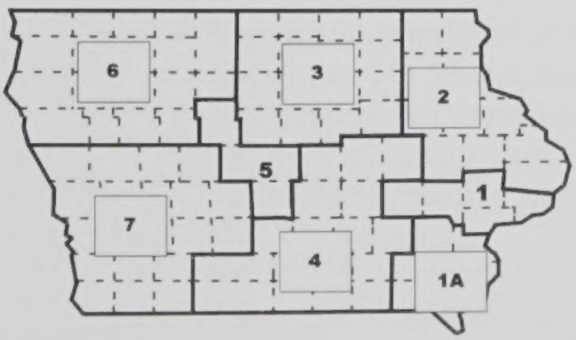
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### Regional Districts




**https://www.facebook.com/IowaNumismaticAssociation/**

## The Iowa Numismatic Association Officers



President
David Stark
.....1219 26th St., Ames, IA 50010
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Beverly Ashton
.....615 Central Ave., Fort Dodge, IA 50501
(515) 573-3033



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.....2761 Bever Ave. S. E., Cedar Rapids, IA 52403
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(563) 886-2399 renjll@yahoo.com

1A. Clarence Mitchell.... 313 Cottage Grove, West Burlington, IA 52655
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2.Dale Winter.....1870 Asbury Rd., Dubuque, IA 52001 (563) 582-6776

3.Don Wells.....367 2nd Street S. W., Britt, IA 59423
(641) 843-4510 dwells86@mchsi.com

4. Denny Ross.....7079 189th St., Albia, IA 52531-8771
(641) 932-2731 den72ny@gmail.com

5. Sam Ashton..... 615 Central Ave., Fort Dodge, Ia 50501
(515) 573-3033

6.Don McCulloch.....900 28th Street, Spirit Lake, IA 51360
(712) 330-3671

7.Tom Flynn..... P.O. Box 381. Glenwood, IA 51534 (402) 415-6841

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John Jackson.....115 Grandy Ave.,
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Gary Stasko .....(515) 232-1552 or Cell (515) 450-0678
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Robert Simon.....Urbandale, IA

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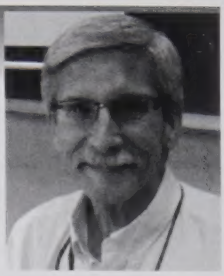
Denny Ross ..... 7079 189th St., Albia, IA 52531-8771
(641) 932-2731 den72ny@gmail.com

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### From the Editor

Would you like to see news of your club's activities covered in *The Iowa Collector*? The editor welcomes news of club happenings in the *Iowa Numismatic Associations* region. Send any information on your upcoming coin show, election of new officers and other club news and articles, prepared by club members, to the Editor. Include any photographs with your article, to make your story more interesting.

Send to: Editor, *The Iowa Collector*
7079 189th Street
Albia, IA 52531-8771



*David Stark*

Summer is over…back to school…back to collecting!

Mark your calendars for the INA Annual Convention October 19 th and 20 th . The Palace in Adventureland Park, first used for last year's meeting, is the best facility for our show ever. Great people, great coins, and educational programs and displays!

INA is working on a change in tax exempt category (501(c)3) Educational Exempt. This will save the club on mailing costs and some taxes. This will allow us to provide more and enlarged programs to promote education and collecting. As you know, we have emphasized education, knowledge, and sharing of our beloved little coins, paper and exonumia. Please contact any INA delegate or officer if you have ideas on how we can help promote the hobby, provide assistance to local clubs or individuals. That's what we are here for!

This issue I am up to "Discover" in my "Search, Discover, Share" motto. In studying coins, you can always discover anomalies, peculiarities or tiny differences you have never seen or noticed before. If you think everything has been discovered, noticed and documented, just ask Iowa's own, Mark Klein, who this past year has proven that 2 never noticed varieties of 1839 Large Cents exist (hiding in plain sight). He noticed tiny differences in the Newcomb 4 variety, notably the digit 3 in the date. He concluded that three very slightly different die

sinking punches were used, making 3 different obverse dies, thus defining 2 additional different die pairs (varieties). If something like this can be discovered in a series as studied and documented as Large Cents – imagine what lies out there in less studied series!

So, get out there and discover your own interesting findings. Then Share. Join and present at your local club meeting or at the INA show or write an article.

Participating is easy and rewarding!

David Stark
INA President



## From The Secretary's Desk

*Beverly Ashton*

Hello from Fort Dodge. Where has the time gone? I know I am always saying this but, I just can't believe how fast time flies! Fall and back to school is just around the corner! That means the INA
Annual Convention is almost upon us. I'm looking forward to seeing everyone at Adventureland at the show.
It is voting time again. Yes we vote every year for something. This year we are voting for the Scott Nichols Outstanding Numismatist. Hopefully those ballots are already in your hands, but if not, they should be soon.
What are the markets doing? Right now gold spot is around $1,420, with silver about $16.40.
See you at the shows…..

Beverly Ashton
INA Secretary/Treasurer

---

### INA Board and Membership Meeting Dates

The INA officers hold three board meetings each year and one open membership meeting. These meetings are held in conjunction with a coin show. The annual board meeting is held during the INA's Annual Coin Show & Convention which is hosted by a different Coin Club each year. The INA's officers board meeting is held the evening of the first day of the INA coin show and the open membership meeting is conducted on the morning of the second day of the INA coin show.

Regular INA Board meetings:
February 23, 2019 at Coin-a-Rama, Nevada, Iowa
June 2, 2019 at Des Moines Coin Club Annual Expo, Altoona, Iowa
October 19, 2019 at Annual INA Show, Altoona, Iowa
October 20, 2019 Open membership meeting, Altoona, Iowa

## June 8, 2019 INA Board Meeting Altoona, Iowa

President Dave Stark called the meeting to order. The minutes were read. Denny Ross motioned they be accepted, Dave Stark seconded and they were approved. The Treasurer's report was given with a balance of $4,070.22 in the general fund. Denny motioned they be accepted, Ron Lashmit seconded and they were approved.

The upcoming 2019 Convention was discussed. The show will be at the Palace in Adventureland Oct 19-20. There will be no Friday night set-up. Directional signs were blown over last year by the winds, hopefully this won't be a problem this year.

There has been a call for exhibits at the Annual Convention published in the Iowa Collector. We all need to ask at our local clubs also. Clubs could sponsor exhibits as well. Space could be limited, so apply now!

Dean Parr (webmaster) reported that everything should be up to date and accurate with our website. We need to be sure to keep copies of changes in the by-laws.

Denny (as Collector editor) would like some more timely responses to inquiries sent to Board Members. To include anything in the September Collector, Denny needs them by July 31st. Under unfinished business, we are still working on the 501(c)(3) designation. The by-laws have been changed a bit. Documenting the many educational opportunities and happenings with the INA has become very important. It was brought to the board's attention that the Ottumwa Coin Club is possibly being disbanded. There were no nominees for club officers and the last club show had only 60 people come.

There was discussion about setting up a scholarship fund for Young Numismatists in honor of Dale Dye. Ron Lashmit made a motion to create this, Dean & Chris seconded. It was decided to create a scholarship fund with the stipulations that they must be a member of a local club and a citizen of Iowa. The Ames & Des Moines Coin Clubs will likely be contributing to this with more to be announced about this at the October meeting. Bev asked about nominations for the Scott Nichols Outstanding Numismatist. She was assured there would be some nominations forthcoming.

Denny motioned we adjourn, Chris seconded and we adjourned.

Beverly Ashton
Secretary/Treasurer

Members present: Denny Ross, Chris Seuntjens, Bev Ashton, Dean Parr, Dave Stark, Brian Sparks Robert Simon, Ron Lashmit & Sam Ashto

# *Fall Iowa Token Collectors Breakfast*

## Saturday September 21, 2019



*Ox Yoke Inn*
**4420 220th Trail**
**Amana, Iowa**



**Time: 8:30 AM**

**Breakfast Served at 9:30**
**All you can eat**




**Price per person $17.00**
**Including tax & tip**




**Come early and gab with us for awhile.**

**Bring your tokens and medals, and bring a friend to the hobby**
**Gary Henderson will be present and have the Iowa Trade Token book available for sale at the token breakfast.**



**For information contact**
**Tom Robertson (319) 351-2512**



## Financial Statement — Oct 27, 2018, Feb 23, 2019

| Starting Balance | INA Regular |
|---|---|
| | $2,746.93 |
| **Receipts** | |
| Dues | 410.00 |
| Ads | 50.00 |
| IINA ½ of show | 1,789.35 |
| Donation | 500.00 |
| Interest | .91 |
| | 2,750.26 |
| **Expenses** | |
| ICTA Dues | 300.00 |
| Returned Collectors | 12.30 |
| Ottumwa Printing | 837.32 |
| Past Presidents Plaque | 60.78 |
| Stamps | 172.50 |
| labels | 44,07 |
| | 1,426.97 |
| Current Balances | 4,070.22 |
| Checking | 2.674.58 |
| Savings | 1,355.64 |
| Cash | 40.00 |
| | 4,070.22 |

### INA Bylaws

The Bylaws can be viewed on the INA website: http://ina.anaclubs.org/ A white copy, of the bylaws, can be obtained by contacting INA Secretary Beverly Ashton, 615 Central Avenue, Fort Dodge, IA 50501

## SEMINAR SPEAKERS

Tom Robertson ..... (319) 541-5679 tdrobby@yahoo.com
Programs on - Seated Liberty series; ½ dime, dimes, quarters half dollars & seated dollars..

Brian Fanton ..... (319) 294-4377
Programs on - Grading, Boy and Girl Scout merit badge programs Slabbing, The 'Art of coin collecting'and general numismatic topics.

Carl L. Thurman, Ph.D. ..... (319) 273-2276 thurman@uni.edu
Program on "American Nickels 1866 to 2017

Dean Parr ..... (319) 366-0552 drparr51@gmail.com
Programs on - Foreign coins & World paper money.

Lee Roe .....(563) 852-3517 hilltopcoin@netins.net
Programs on - Buying and selling coin collections. Slabbing.

Steve Feller.....(319) 393-7052 sfeller@coe.edu
Programs on - POW Scrip, WW II Concentration Camp money, Civil War money, The New Orleans mint, Ancient coins, and other topics.

## SHOW COORDINATOR

John Jackson ..... (712) 274-9195 jjcoin1@hotmail.com

## MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR

Chris Seuntjens.....(515) 251-4031 chris@christophersjewelry.com

## WEBMASTER

Dean Parr ..... .(319) 366-0552 drpar51@gmail.com

## When and where Coin Clubs Meet

**Ames** ------ Last Wednesday, Senior Citizens Center, 7:00 PM Scott Nichols @ (515) 232-9222

**Burlington** -------- Fourth Tuesday, No meeting in Dec., Burlington Public Library, 210 Court St., 5:30 PM, Clarence Mitchell @ (319) 752-6052

**Cedar Rapids** -- Third Wednesday, Rockwell Collins, Iowa State Training Room, 5070 Rockwell Dr NE, 7:30 PM, Dean Parr (319) 366-0552

**Clarion** - Fourth Thursday, Pizza Ranch on Main St, 7:00 PM, Boyd LaRue @ (515) 460-5681 or Bill Soesbe @ (515) 532-2155

**Decorah** ----- First Tuesday, V. F. W. Building basement , 104 State St 7:30 PM, Dave Sanderson @ (563) 568-2371

**Dubuque** ---------- First Thursday, A&W-OKY DOKY, 1st & Locust St, Upstairs at 7:00 PM Neil Aitchison @ (563) 590-9623

**Des Moines** -- First Tuesday, St Marks Episcopal Church, 3120 F 24th, 7:00 PM, Larry Carlberg @ (515) 480-7334

**Fort Dodge** ------- Second Thursday, ICCC East Campus, 7:00 PM, Sam Ashton @ (515)573-3033

**Glenwood Coin Club** - Second Thursday, Glenwood Coin Shop, 13 North Vine Street, Suite 2, 7:00 PM, Tom Flynn (712) 527-4321

**Grinnell** ------- Second Monday, First Baptist Church, 925 East Street, Grinnel, IA 7:00 PM, George Fowler @ (641) 236-3549

**Hiawatha** ------- Fourth Wednesday (except June & July), Hiawatha Library 150 W Willman St (or the shop) 7:00 PM, Brian Fanton @ (319) 294-4377

**Keokuk** ------- Third Thursday every month. Lost Canvass Studio, 711 Main Street, Keokuk, Iowa 6:00 PM, Tom Gardner @ (515) 292-9047

**Old Capitol (Iowa City)** -------- Second Tuesday, Veteran's Administration Hospital (Third floor cafeteria), Hwy 6, 7:00 PM Tom Robertson @ (319) 351-2512

**Oskaloosa** --- Second Thursday each month, 103 High Avenue, 7:30 PM Clarence Mckee @ (641) 672-2763

**Port City (Muscatine)** - Fourth Tuesday, (no meetins June, July, August & Dec) Musco Lighting, 2107 Stewart Rd., Muscatine 7 PM, Jim Burr (563) 262-9313

**Quad City (Moline, IL)** - Third Thursday, Calvary Lutheran Church, Avenue of the Cities and 29th St, 7:00 PM, Jeff Struve (309) 737-0206

**Siouxland (Sioux City)** - First Tuesday, First United Methodist Church, 1915 Nebraska Street, 7:00 PM. John Jackson @ (712) 274-9195

**Storm Lake** - Second Tuesday, Chamber of Commerce Bldg., 119 West 6th Street, 7:00 PM, Russ Post @ (712) 284-2110

**Wadena** - Third Thursday, Historical Center, West Union, IA, 7:30 PM Dr. James E. Ralls @ (319) 283-4440

**Waterloo/Cedar Falls** - Second Tuesday, Waterloo Arts & Rec. Center, First & Commercial Streets, 6:30 PM, Dennis Bracken (319) 231-8385

## Dear I.N.A. Member

The 2019 year is here. We encourage you to support the I.N.A. with your ad in The Collector. The rates are.

**Full Page** **$100.00** **Half Page** **$60.00**

**Quarter Page** **$30.00**

Ad rates for private shows will be prorated from the normal yearly advertising rates.

Full page ads for INA Coin Clubs are $10.00. Non INA Coin Clubs are $25.00.

There are 3 issues of our deluxe publication, with a 4th issue when needed. Anyone would be proud to have their ad in "The Collector". We try to get articles and information for the good of our members. We encourage everyone to write an article concerning numismatic information which might help other collectors, especially our new members.

Thank you for your sponsorship!

***Chris Seuntjens***
***3427 Merle Hay Rd.,***
***Des Moines, IA 50310***

**The Iowa Collector is published 3 times a year**
**Publication dates:**
**January, May, & September**

# 2019 Coin Show Calendar

**Sept 15 - Monthly Collectors Coin Show** - Hilton Garden Inn, 2792 Mid American Dr., Council Bluffs, IA (9-3) Ed Bishop (407) 720-3355

**Sept 21 - Fall Token Collectors Breakfast** - Ox Yoke Inn, 4420 220th Trail, Amana, IA (7:30am) Tom Robertson (319) 541-5679 email: tdrobby@yahoo.com

**Oct 20 - Monthly Collectors Coin Show** - Hilton Garden Inn, 2792 Mid American Dr., Council Bluffs, IA (9-3) Ed Bishop (407) 720-3355

**Oct 19-20 - INA 81st Annual Convention & Coin Show**-The Palace in Adventureland Park, Altoona, IA Exit 142 off of I-80 Chris (515) 251-4031

**Nov 17 - Monthly Collectors Coin Show** - Hilton Garden Inn, 2792 Mid American Dr., Council Bluffs, IA (9-3) Ed Bishop (407) 720-3355

**Dec 8 - Old Capitol Coin Club** - Clarion Hotel, I-30 & Hwy 1 (exit 246) Iowa City, IA Alice Grimm (319) 331-8576

**Dec 15 - Monthly Collectors Coin Show** - Hilton Garden Inn, 2792 Mid American Dr., Council Bluffs, IA (9-3) Ed Bishop (407) 720-3355

81ST INA CONVENTION & COIN SHOW
October 19th & 20th
The Palace
Adventureland Park
Altoona, Iowa
Exit 142 off of I-80



# COIN SHOW



## Sunday, December 8, 2019

**9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

## Clarion Inn

**I-80 & Hwy. 1 (exit #246 on I-80)**
**2525 N. Dodge St.**
**Iowa City, Iowa**

## 62 Bourse Tables

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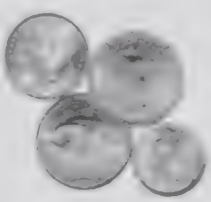



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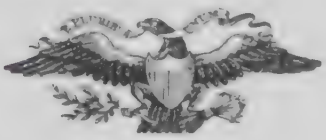
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In what year was the first U..S. half dime minted?

A. 1796 C. 1792

B. 1800 D. 1793

What coin is pictured on the cover of this issue of The Iowa Collector?

A. Oak Tree Shilling C. Pine Tree Shilling

B. Fir Tree Shilling D Willow Tree Shilling

Answers to above inside back cover page

Established in 1938 the Iowa Numismatic Association was formed as a non-profit organization to bring together and educate those persons interested in numismatics. To encourage those individuals entering into the field of numismatics to study the history of the world through the art of coin, currency, and exonumia collecting. To provide an educational forum for Iowa numismatists to share their interests and knowledge with prospective new collectors.


United States
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**Gary Ihrke**

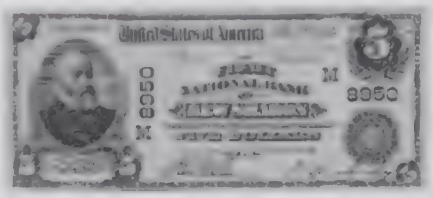
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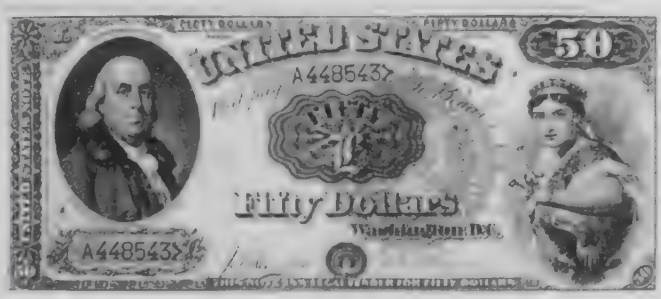
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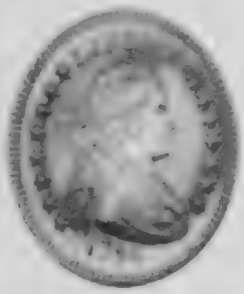
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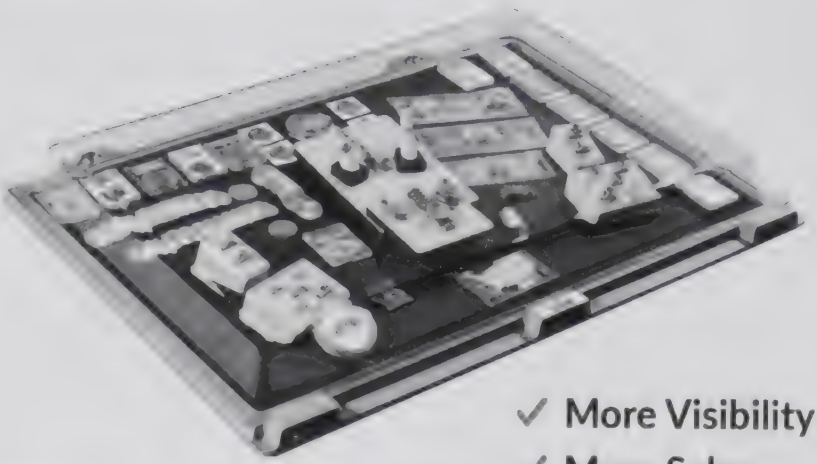
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## The Palace at Adventureland Park

### Saturday October 19th

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Dealer setup | | 7:00 am - 9:00 am |
| early-birds $50.00 | | 8:00 am |
| Bourse open to public | | 9:00 am - 5 pm |
| Seminars: | Convention Hall | 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm |
| Bourse closes | | 5:00 pm |
| INA Board Meeting | | 5:30 pm |

### Sunday October 20th

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Membership Breakfast | Convention Hall | 7:00 am |
| Bourse Open to Dealers | | 8:00 am |
| Bourse open to Public | | 9:00 am |
| Bourse closes | | 4:00 pm |

### Educational Seminars

**Saturday: Convention Hall**

**1 pm Speaker: Tom Robertson**
**Topic: Seated Dimes**

**2 pm Speaker: David Stark:**
**Topic: Coin References**

**3 pm Speaker: Dillion Kraft**
**Topic: Love Tokens**

**For Information contact:**
**Chris Sentjens 515-251-4031**
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## 2019 INA Convention Speakers



*Tom Robertson*
Topic: **Seated Dimes**

Tom has been an avid numismatist since 1951.He is the past Historian for the INA as well as a past President and Vice President. Tom is the past INA District 1 Director, and also the past District Representative for the ANA. He has also served as a past Representative of the Flying Eagle and Indian Head Cent Organization. He has also taught a numismatic course at Kirkwood College. He is also diversified in the field of numismatics and a devoted contributor of his time and energy.
He is also the recipient the INA's Outstanding Numismatist Award.



*David Stark*
Topic: **Coin References**

Pharmacist by trade, collector since first Lincoln Cent Board as a kid. Hooked on Large Cents since early 1980's, chose Middle Dates (1816-1839) to collect by die variety, as most "bang for the buck". Also enjoy collecting Indian and Lincoln cents by die variety. Active in local clubs. Currently INA First Vice President.



*Dillon Kraft*
Topic: **Love Token**

Dillon Kraft started his path in coin collecting as a boy when his grandmother bought him his first Whitman blue book at the Woolworths store in Clinton, IA. As a young collector, he spent hours pulling wheat cents out of the Redwing jug his grandpa dumped his change into every night after returning from his vending route. Today Dillon's numismatic interest is focused on Love Tokens and Capped Bust Halves. He is a member of the INA, ANA, and the Love Token Society. He has served as the past President of the Ames Coin Club.

## Collecting Rare Coins: A Great Hobby With Wonderful Options

*Bruce Amspacher*

Collecting rare coins has been a passion shared by kings, sports personalities, famous actors and writers, and millions of people from all walks of life since the time of King Midas over 2,700 years ago. The coins from the earliest days were minted in Lydia, an area between the Mediterranean and Black seas. Many coins still survive from those ancient times, as do coins from the Romans and Greeks of 2,000 years ago.

Collecting rare coins is quite popular among the numismatic community, especially coins from the United States. In fact, issues from the U.S. hold almost every world-record price for a collectible coin.

This series explores many different series of United States coins from the very first issues, discussing the various collecting options that are available. In the first installment of this four-part series, we take a look at colonial coins and cent pieces.

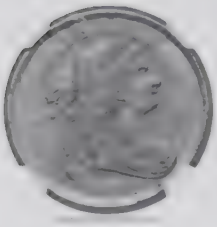


**Colonial Coins** - The first coins struck in what is now the United States were minted in 1652 in the Massachusetts Bay Colony. These coins are usually referred to as "Pine Tree" issues, but in fact encompass the NE Shilling plus the Willow Tree, Oak Tree and Pine Tree coins. These silver coins are dated 1652 (with one exception) even though they were struck until 1682.

Other Colonial issues include coins that were struck in other countries but circulated in early America, and private or state issues that were struck outside the U.S. Mint.

Collecting options: Collectors of Colonial coins may opt to accumulate coins by type (one Colonial of each type, without attention to varieties and/or rare dates), state (collecting the Colonial issues of New York, Connecticut, New Jersey, etc.), or variety

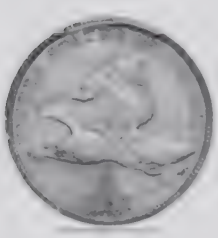
A variety collection can be extremely challenging, time-consuming and expensive, but equally rewarding and educational.



**Half Cents** - Issued from 1793 through 1857, this series of copper coins contains many rare and expensive dates. Some of the dates were struck only in proof, meaning that no pieces were minted for circulation. Mint state and proof pieces are valued not only for their condition, but for their color, with original mint red being highly desirable.
Collecting options: Collectors of half cents often collect by date, type or specialization (i.e., collecting the proof issues exclusively or collecting die varieties).



**Large Cents** - As is true with half cents, Large cents were issued from 1793 through 1857. This series has a huge following, with enthusiastic collectors willing to pay six-figure prices-and beyond- for the rare varieties they need to complete their collections. Extremely desirable coins from this series include the 1793 Chain cent, 1793 Wreath cent, 1793 Liberty Cap cent and many other issues.
Collecting options: Collectors of large cents build collections based on date, type, or variety; but regardless of the method of collection, you are sure to find many other collectors who share your interest.
Wayne Gretzky - Another famous collector





**Flying Eagle and Indian Cents** - The era of the "small cent" began in 1856 with the first Flying Eagle cent, and continues today. Collectors usually consider these two series as one. The Flying Eagle cent was only issued for three years, while the Indian cent was minted from 1859 through 1909.

Collecting options: Collectors typically assemble these by type and

date, with some collectors opting for proofs and others for business-strike examples. A type collection usually includes a Flying Eagle cent, an 1859 Indian cent (no shield on the reverse), a copper-nickel cent (1860-64), and a so-called "bronze" cent (1864-1909).



**Lincoln Cents** - It's as American as baseball and hot dogs to collect Lincoln cents, and the popularity of this series is incredible. The 1909-S V.D.B. cent is possibly the most famous of all U.S. coins, and collectors of all ages seem to be on the lookout for one.

Collecting options: Collectors usually assemble this series by date and mintmark, even though there are several significant type coins as well. The mint errors of this series are popular too, including the 1955/55 Doubled Die and 1922 "Plain" cents.



**Two Cent Pieces** - Here's a trivia question: What is the first U.S. coin to have the motto IN GOD WE TRUST? The answer: the two-cent piece. This series lasted only ten years (1864-73) and is quite collectible though completing a collection can be somewhat of a challenge.

Collecting options: Because there is only one type, this series is collected by date, with the 1873 being a proof-only issue.



**Three Cent Silvers** - This tiny coin actually weighs less than one gram. The series runs from 1851-1873, comprising three different types and two different metal compositions. There is only one mint-marked coin, the New Orleans issue of 1851.

Collecting options: Type collecting is popular with the three cent silver, as is date collecting by business strikes and proofs. Proofs of the Type One (1851-53) are prohibitively rare, so most proof collections begin with the 1854 Type Two issue.

## Fabled SS Central America Treasure Reveals Extremely Rare, Gem 1856-S Dime

(Brea, California) June 14, 2019 – The S.S. Central America, the famous "Ship of Gold" that sank in 1857 carrying tons of California Gold Rush-era treasure, continues to reveal astonishing numismatic surprises. The latest find is an extremely rare mint condition 1856 San Francisco Mint Liberty Seated silver dime that is now tied for finest known and described as a "miracle" coin by one of its discoverers.

Recovered in 2014 with thousands of other dimes in the ship purser's iron lock box but only recently examined and cataloged, the coin now has been graded PCGS MS65 CAC. It is one of only two known at that grade and with none higher.

"The 1856-S dime has an incredibly rare mintage of only 70,000; a mere $7,000 in face value. In fact, the Professional Coin Grading Service Population Report indicates only 11 uncirculated 1856-S dimes that weren't put into circulation or melted! This example stayed pristine with full luster after a century and a half in the ocean environment," said Dwight Manley, Managing Partner of the California Gold Marketing Group (CGMG).

"It is among the crème de la crème, the best-of-the-best of coinage from this amazing sunken treasure," stated Manley.

CGMG acquired all the coins retrieved in 2014 from the fabled S.S. Central America as well as most of the coins found in 1980s recovery expeditions. The group took possession in January 2018 of the sunken treasure recovered in 2014, and a meticulous coin-by-coin, ingot-by-ingot examination has continued since then.

"We will publicly display this top rarity for the first time at the American Numismatic Association's 2019 Chicago World's Fair of Money®, August 13-17, at booth 1615," announced Manley.
PCGS officials say it was a thrilling moment when the coin arrived there for grading.
"The recovered treasure from the S.S. Central America continues to

put the PCGS grading team in awe. Seeing a silver coin that spent well over 100 years at the bottom of the ocean emerge in such incredible condition is a numismatic dream," stated Brett Chaville, President of PCGS which has certified all the recovered S.S. Central America coins submitted by CGMG over the years.

John Albanese, President and Co-Founder of Certified Acceptance Corporation (CAC), described the 1856-S dime as, "A beautiful frosty gem! Hard to believe it was on the bottom of the Atlantic Ocean for 157 years!"

Perser's Bag

During the 2014 recovery expedition, two canvas bags were found in the bottom of the lock box, and one bag contained more than 8,000 dimes.

"It quickly became obvious that this was the 'cash box' of the ship, a truly marvelous historical find," said Bob Evans, the chief scientist on the 1980's mission that first located and recovered a portion of the fabulous sunken treasure and who served in that same role and as a numismatist with the 2014 recovery.

"I saw the 1856-S after I already had examined around 4,000 other dimes from the purser's bag. That big bag sat in the dark, cold, swampy, anaerobic (lack of oxygen) interior of an iron safe for 157 years. But when I first saw it, I could see this dime was mint state," explained Evans.

"I saw the obverse first and assumed it was an 1856 New Orleans Mint or a Philadelphia Small-Date in high-grade, not uncommon among these dimes. I flipped it over expecting to see either no mint mark or an O. I remember my audible, 'Well, at long last!,' somewhat stunned response to the S mint mark dime as I held it in my gloved fingers. It is truly a wonderful, miracle coin, and the fact that it is the only 1856-S dime from the S.S. Central America treasure makes it all that much more special," stated Evans.

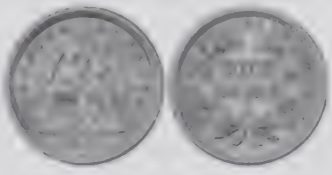
The S.S. Central America was a 280-foot long, three-masted side-wheel steamship carrying tons of California gold that had been

shipped from San Francisco to Panama when she sank in a hurricane on September 12, 1857 during the final leg of a voyage from Aspinwall (now Colón), Panama to New York City. There were 578 passengers and crew on board, but only 153 survived.

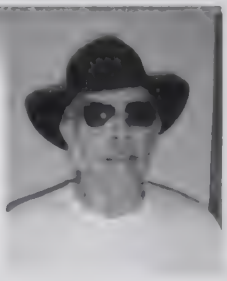
The loss of the ship's gold cargo was a major factor in the economically devastating financial panic of 1857 in the United States.

In a court-approved transaction in November 2017, the California Gold Marketing Group acquired all the treasure recovered in 2014 from Ira Owen Kane, Receiver for Recovery Limited Partnership and Columbus Exploration, LLC. In 1999, CGMG acquired all of the available S.S. Central America treasure that was recovered in the 1980s.

**Retrieved in latest sunken treasure recovery, top rarity is now graded PCGS MS65 CAC, tied for finest known.**



## From The Editors Desk



*Denny Ross*

Here we are coming into late summer and what a difference between this years summer temps and last years! I'll take this years summer temps every summer.

The next upcoming coin show is the INA's Annual Convention & Coin Show October 19th & 20th. The show is being held at the Palace in Adventureland Park, same location as last year.

There will be three informative and educational seminars, with great topics, on Saturday the 19th, be sure and check them out.

You should be getting ballots in the mail for selecting the Scott Nichols Outstanding Numismatist Award. Be sure and vote for your selection and then mail your ballot back to the INA Secretary before the end of September

Denny Ross
Editor: The Iowa Collector

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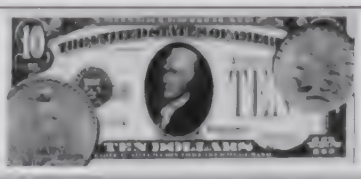
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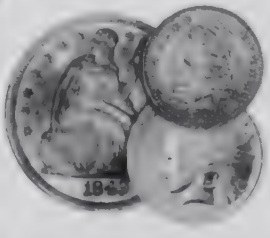
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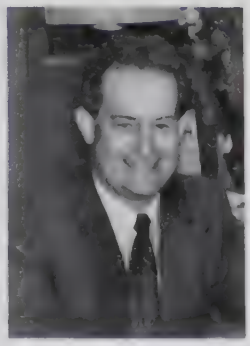
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**Collecting Rare Coins: A Great Hobby with Hundreds of Wonderful Options**

*By* Bruce Amspacher



Half Dimes -- The half dime was issued from 1792 (when it was spelled HALF DISME) through 1873. The first half dismes were actually struck outside of the Unite States Mint (it wasn't open yet) in the cellar of a private residence. There is strong evidence that both George Washington and Thomas Jefferson were in attendance for the minting of these coins.



This series includes a unique coin, the 1870-S half dime, which wasn't known to exist until recent years. There are many different type coins in this series, and almost all collections are formed in this manner. There have also been several famous complete collections assembled over the years. While a few proofs are known from the early years, most proof collections begin with the coins of the mid-1850's.



Dimes (1796-1891) -- This denomination has been in existence for over 200 years now, and the first century (or so) featured many important design changes. From the Draped Bust, Small Eagle (1796-97) to the Draped Bust, Large Eagle (1798-1807) to the Capped Bust type and on through the Liberty Seated design that ended in 1891, the dime has a rich history.

Because of the expense of the early pieces and the rare dates, the dimes of 1796-1891 are usually collected by type. Proof collections are also fun to assemble, although the pre-1855 coins are usually extremely expensive due to their rarity.



Barber Dimes -- Beginning in 1892 and running through 1916, this series features a great rarity in the 1894-S dime, of which only 24 pieces were minted.

Both date sets from business strikes and proofs are assembled, with cameo contrast gem proofs being especially popular.



Mercury Dimes -- That's actually "Winged Liberty" on the obverse of this coin, but it's been called the "Mercury dime" for so long that that's now its accepted moniker. The beautiful design inspires many new collectors each year, and the 1916-D key date is almost as popular as the 1909-S V.D.B. cent.

Date collections run from 1916 through 1945, while the proofs are limited to the years 1936 through 1942.

Collections that are assembled in mint state frequently make the reverse bands separation an important aspect. You will usually see the finest struck specimens noted as FB, which means Full Bands on the reverse.



Roosevelt Dimes -- Following the death of FDR, the Roosevelt dime was issued to honor him the following year. Now over 50 years old (1946-date), this series is collected for its silver issues (1946-64) or up to the present time. Proofs were issued for the first time in 1950.



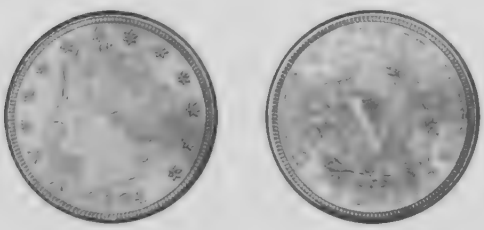
Twenty Cent Pieces -- This is the 19th century version of the Susan B. Anthony dollar! The denomination was issued for only four years (1875-78) with the last two years being proof-only. The design and size are quite similar to the quarter dollar of the same era.



There are only four proof coins in the set, making it a short but enticing collection. The business strike coins include the ultra-rare 1876-CC, so many date collectors ignore that particular issue due to economics.

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## PCGS Coin Facts



Ron Guth: In 1883, the Liberty Nickel was introduced. The earliest versions were produced without the words "Five Cents" on the reverse. Enterprising individuals took advantage of this omission by gold-plating the coins, adding reeding to the edges, and passing the coins off as a new $5 Half Eagle. The Mint quickly remedied the situation by adding "FIVE CENTS" to the reverse of the coin later in 1883. Key dates in the "Liberty Nickel" series include the 1885, 1886, and 1912-S. A mere five 1913 Liberty Nickels are known, but these are believed to have been produced clandestinely at the Mint.

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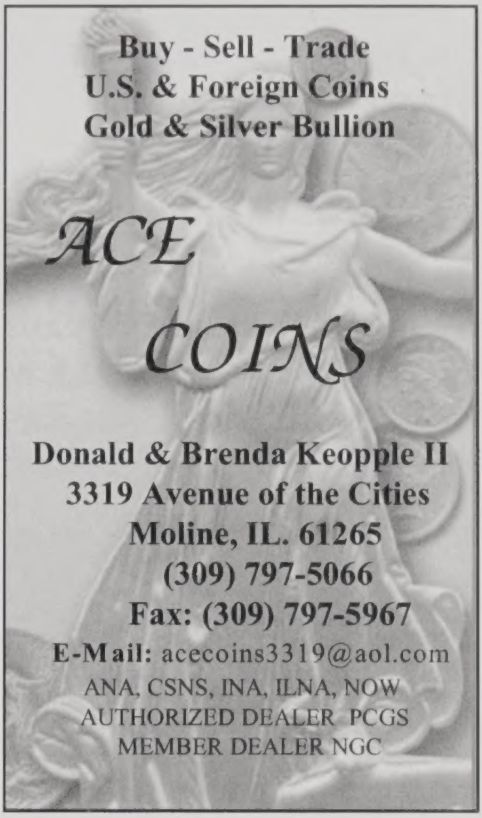
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